

I have become aware of HB477 in the last few days and I am writing from my home state, Nebraska, to lend my voice to the citizens of Connecticut who are OPPOSED to portions of this bill.

I refer specifically to Section 7 lines 229-339. The previous 6 sections of HB477 are solid contributions for your citizens but the inclusion of the above mentioned portions are unreasonable and founded on a poor understanding of effective public policy regarding gun violence. The inclusion here, in omnibus form, is inappropriate and misleading. Please ammend or remove lines 229-339 from section 7 of HB477.

Funding for this is not only excessive but I suggest it is unnecessary. All of what is proposed for study would repeat data collected and available from federal agencies. DO NOT allocate funds for this bill to create duplicate work and instead focus on education. An informed populace should be a primary goal.

Please note that suicides by firearm are included in the fatality statistics that many Connecticut legislators are basing their understanding and decisions on. This is gross misinformation. More than 60% of reported gun deaths are by suicide. If the goal is to reduce "gun violence" please allocate the millions of dollars to be committed to programs that are established agencies and PLEASE consider your military veterans! The contributions you make to those who served will most assuredly save lives. Do not allow the continued "blindness" to the suicide issue and PLEASE FOCUS on mental health matters.

I thank you for your time and attention today.

Standing in solidarity with the citizens of Connecticut, I am,

Terry Brown Jr (DJ)